(*f*) whether the Government are intending to convert the Tanur Research Station as a training institute for petty yard officers and other members of the Fisheries Subordinate Service?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes, if they satisfy the qualifications prescribed.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) There is no such intention at present, though occasionally some subordinate officers are given training in the station.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know from the hon. Minister, with reference to clause (*e*) of the question, whether the Government have at any time considered the question of making provision for the training in the fish-curing yards of candidates applying for the posts of petty yard officers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say off-hand; but if the hon. Member gives me notice, I shall enquire into the question."

Local Boards and Municipal Councils

Preparation of voters' lists for elections to local bodies.

*240 *Q.*—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what steps have so far been taken towards the preparation of voters' lists and the allocation of seats reserved for minority communities and women under the District Municipalities Act and the Local Boards Act as recently amended?

A.—Draft rules prescribing the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards as the authority to prepare the electoral rolls of municipal councils and local boards have been issued and they will be confirmed in due course. Municipal councils, panchayats which were lately union boards, and karnams have been asked to prepare preliminary rolls urgently and to submit them to the Inspector for final elaboration and scrutiny. It is proposed to give the Inspector the staff necessary to enable him to do the work expeditiously, the cost being recovered from the local bodies concerned. Proposals have been called for from municipal councils and district and taluk boards and panchayats which were lately union boards, regarding the reservation of seats for particular communities and for women.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know from the hon. the Chief Minister what is the time that is allotted for the preparation and completion of the electoral rolls?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot say what time they will take."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know for how long the staff has been sanctioned by Government?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" For a period of six months and the elections have to be completed before August."

Mr. D. THOMAS :—" Has the special staff that has been sanctioned begun work, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU .—" Not yet, Sir. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I take it that the elections will be held only after six months, i.e., the period for which the special staff has been appointed ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" That is the present intention."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In the answer it is stated that the final elaboration and scrutiny will be done by the Inspector. May I know what the Government mean by ' scrutiny ' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Scrunity of the rolls to see whether there is any objection either on the ground that certain names have not been included or that certain names have been wrongly included and so on."

Mr. D. THOMAS :—" May I know when the staff sanctioned is likely to function ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" It was only day before yesterday that the Council voted the demand for the appointment of the staff and so it will take some time for the staff to begin work. "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If the staff completes the work in the course of two or three months, will the hon. Minister order the elections to be held soon after ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" It is not likely that the work will be completed so early as two months. Anyhow if the electoral rolls are completed soon, steps will be taken to constitute the new boards as early as possible."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether any distinction will be made between the municipalities and the other boards, as municipalities are comprised in compact areas and therefore the rolls may be pushed on and the elections ordered immediately ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I don't think any good will result from that, but we have asked the municipal councils and union boards to send up their lists immediately."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" It is notorious that in the preparation of voters' lists the names of many voters are left out. May I know what special steps the Government propose to take to see that the voters' lists are properly prepared ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I thank the hon. Member for the information he has given. But, if there are persons whose interests are affected, I am sure they will make representations to that effect, which will be favourably considered. "